



# Big Brothers Big Sisters.

GREATER RICHMOND | VIRGINIA PENINSULA | HAMPTON ROADS | TRI-CITIES ➡➡➡ FALL 2018



## NEW LOOK. SAME URGENT MISSION.



Big Brothers Big Sisters



Big Brothers  
Big Sisters.

One-to-one relationships will always be important. Now our focus is on urgency, confidence, empowerment, pride, and community. You can clear the path to a child's biggest possible future with Big Brothers Big Sisters.

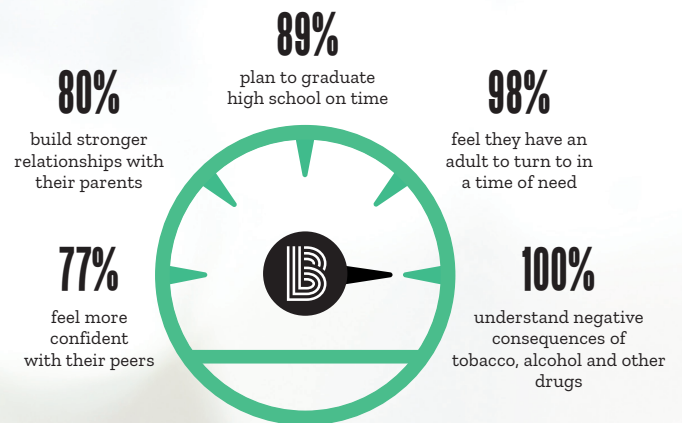
- 1 30 Bigs in 30 Days:  
January 2019
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# WE CAN CHANGE THE WORLD

In a world of causes, Big Brothers Big Sisters makes a difference by creating professionally supported, one-to-one mentoring matches for kids who want to realize their full potential.

Through consistent, intentional, positive interactions, kids enrolled in Big Brothers Big Sisters cultivate abilities to shape their own lives, and learn how to engage with and contribute to the world around them. They share moments that are both wonder-filled and empowering.





## EZRA, 12 YEARS OLD / VIRGINIA BEACH

Ezra's mom is an Army veteran and a single mom of three. She works two jobs to support her family. Ezra's dad passed away in 2016. Ezra is kind-hearted, energetic and imaginative. He loves to help others and wants to be a police officer when he grows up. Ezra needs a positive adult role model to help him achieve his goals.



## ALICE, 3RD GRADE / HENRICO COUNTY

Alice has had a rough year. She was in a bad accident with a dog. A car hit her house. Her family was already struggling – financially and in managing the stress of a disabled sibling. Nonetheless, Alice still makes good grades and has friends. Alice needs an adult cheerleader at school to focus on her and her potential.



## AARON, 10 YEARS OLD / RICHMOND

Aaron has been waiting for a mentor since 2015. His dad has been in and out of jail three times since his Mom called for help. Aaron is a math whiz, likes to play basketball, and has a great sense of humor. Aaron needs a consistent adult in his life to help create routine and to relax, plus help him explore what he wants to be when he grows up.



## JAKARI, 7 YEARS OLD / NEWPORT NEWS

Jakari lives with his grandmother and mom, and has a baby sister on the way. Jakari is an excellent student and loves to read, especially comics, is a talented artist, and likes to shoot hoops. He wants to be a librarian when he grows up. He needs a mentor to help him spend more time outside and as a male role model.



## ERIC, 13 YEARS OLD / WILLIAMSBURG

Eric is legally blind, but, with his glasses, can read and get around on his own. Eric loves playing video games, football, and basketball, and riding his bike. Eric is involved with the teen group at his church. He is afraid of snakes, but eager to try new things. He wants a mentor so he can spend more time outside and focus on academics.

## YOUR ACTIONS SPEAK LOUDER THAN WORDS.

**You can help fill the urgent need for mentors – overwhelmingly male mentors. Over 70% of requests for Bigs come from single parents of boys, while only 40% of Bigs are men. 413 kids are waiting for Bigs. Now is the time to take action. Apply today or join Big Brothers Big Sisters at events throughout January 2019, National Mentoring Month, to meet current volunteers and learn how you are already life qualified to volunteer.**

**MORE INFO:** [Bigbrobigsis.com](http://Bigbrobigsis.com)

**SOCIAL:** @BeABigVA



**PHONE:** 804.261.4940





# LIFE QUALIFIED: BIG OF THE YEAR HONOREES

These Big Brothers and Big Sisters have what it takes to help our kids. You do, too. The best moments between Littles and Bigs are both wonder-filled and empowering, and create new assets to help Littles create their biggest possible futures. Teaming up with family and professional coaching from Big Brothers Big Sisters, our Littles are reaching their goals. You can learn more about our goals based on the Search Institute's 40 Developmental Assets and Positive Youth Development theories by participating in Big Brothers Big Sisters trainings.



## ANDREW SERAFIM & ANTHONY / GOAL: PERSONAL POWER

Anthony's Mom is blind and she wanted him to have every experience possible, even if she couldn't do it herself. Big Andrew and Little Anthony find joy in everyday activities. Anthony's confidence and comfort with adults seems to grow each time he's with Andrew. Now Anthony takes pride in paying the bill at lunch or interacting with a cashier at the store – he can do it himself. Plus, Anthony likes having time with Andrew – apart from his twin sister. Andrew didn't know what to expect when he got matched with Little Anthony, but Andrew always smiles to himself when he "gets to Anthony's house and sees the excitement barely held in check because he can't wait to go do something fun."



## KAYLEIGH HENTGES & TALEYA / GOAL: COMMUNITY VALUES

With a new stepdad and stepsiblings in the home, Taleya's mom knew she would benefit from having a Big Sister. Little Taleya is naturally curious – from science to performing arts – and has a lot of energy. Kayleigh and Taleya find ways to tie in their varied interests while visiting places like Lewis Ginter Botanical Gardens. Kayleigh sees Taleya's personality come out whether she's personifying the fish in the pond or exploring the different species of cacti. Kayleigh recognizes Little Taleya for being intelligent, funny, and a great dancer. Taleya says Kayleigh is her "hype man" and encourages her in everything she does.



## LEIGH ROSSI & JAZZMINE / GOAL: CONSTRUCTIVE USE OF TIME

Jazzmine first met Big Sister Leigh at her school, but they quickly knew they wanted to develop a deeper and longer-lasting friendship. They committed to meeting every week to have a fun and productive use of time. Humor and fun have kept their relationship going. Jazzmine's favorite stories to recount include Leigh wiping out right in front of her on the annual ski trip and pulling one over on Leigh when she didn't understand bowl sizes at Sweet Frog. With all their laughs, Little Jazzmine has found constructive ways to use her time and how to share her emotions effectively. Big Leigh has been scrapbooking all these memories so Jazzmine can remember experiences that built her confidence and get ideas on how she enjoys spending her time when she graduates high school.



## TRAVIS MICKENS & LONDON / GOAL: ADULT ROLE MODEL

London's Grandmother saw the impact of London growing up in a household of all women and wanted a male role model to help him build confidence. She said the ideal Big would be someone who likes sports. Big Brother Travis fit the bill – he is a personal trainer, committed to wellness in all forms, who loves to spend time outside. Together Big Travis and Little London have cultivated London's love for football, and, with a missed pass or two, learned to be more patient along the way. Travis wanted to be someone his Little could count on – and it has worked. Recently, London asked Travis if he could tell him a secret and whispered in his ear, "You are my best friend."



## ASHLEY HALL & JAZMIN / GOAL: READING FOR PLEASURE

Jazmin's Mom knew she needed additional help with her reading – one of the reasons Jazmin needed a Big Sister. Big Ashley and Little Jazmin can often be found under the teepee reading at a children's bookstore. And they often weave reading into their other activities – like reading historic signs while on hikes through the James River Park System or reading directions while headed to a new place. As a result, Jazmin won most improved in her class. Ashley wanted having a Big to be a positive experience for Jazmin, but she says, "I underestimated how much fun I would have. Hanging out and seeing the world through Jazmin's eyes is the highlight of my week."



# FULFILL YOUR LEGACY

Your legacy can clear the path to a child's biggest possible future. A planned gift to Big Brothers Big Sisters ensures real change will continue through consistent, meaningful interactions between kids and adults. Big Brothers Big Sisters uses research-based and outcomes-oriented methods to ensure kids have the assets you provide for your own family.

Including Big Brothers Big Sisters as part of your will or estate is a simple way to empower potential in our communities. You can also designate Big Brothers Big Sisters as the beneficiary in an IRA, 401K, or life insurance policy. If you name Big Brothers Big Sisters as the beneficiary of a life insurance policy, it benefits both the children in your community and you! Planned giving can offer significant advantages including tax breaks and a potential income increase. Discuss your strategy with your estate planner to ensure you maximize your benefits.

***To learn more, reach out to Ann Rohde Payes, Executive Director, at [apayes@bigbrobigsis.com](mailto:apayes@bigbrobigsis.com) or 804-261-4940.***



Big Brothers  
Big Sisters



# AN EVENING FOR KIDS' SAKE 2018



In a community of causes, Big Brothers Big Sisters makes a difference by creating professionally supported, one-to-one relationships for kids who want to realize their full potential. 2018's An Evening for Kids' Sake raised over \$95,000 to connect individuals and empower potential for kids in our community.

Thanks to our committee whose actions spoke louder than words to make the evening a success: Lorrie Byrne, Mary & Joe Dorsey, Nicole Holland, Susan Lenz, Kathy & Bruce Margopoulos, Lauren McCormick, Jennifer Porter, Jenny Sebastian, and JoElle VanRoekel.

Highlights of the evening included honoring Big Brother and Big Sister of the Year honorees, specialty cocktails, last-minute bids in the live auction, and a performance by Richmond favorite Good Shot Judy.

## 2018 SPONSORS THANK YOU FOR MAKING THIS NIGHT POSSIBLE



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**YOUR ACTIONS SPEAK LOUDER THAN WORDS. JOIN US FOR 30 BIGS IN 30 DAYS. JANUARY 2019. SEE PAGE 2.**



**Big Brothers Big Sisters**

**BOWL** For Kids' Sake

You're not too early to start making teams and raising money to unite with kids, their families, and Bigs to defend the potential of our community. Plus, it's the most fun you can have in rented shoes!

**RICHMOND** March 8

**TRI-CITIES** March 9

**VIRGINIA PENINSULA** April 12

**HAMPTON ROADS** April 26

**WANT TO EMPOWER REAL, MEANINGFUL CHANGE FOR A KID?**  
**CONTACT HALEY AT [HBERLING@BIGBROBIGSIS.COM](mailto:HBERLING@BIGBROBIGSIS.COM) OR 804.261.4940 TO MAKE IT HAPPEN.**